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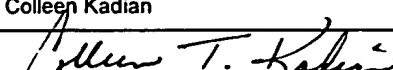
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TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>	Application Number	09/904,154	
	Filing Date	07/12/2001	
	First Named Inventor	Adrianus J. van den Nieuwelaar	
	Group Art Unit	3644	
	Examiner Name	Judith A. Nelson	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	4	Attorney Docket Number	V0028/260265

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual name	Kristin L. Johnson Kilpatrick Stockton LLP
Signature	 23370
Date	February 12, 2002

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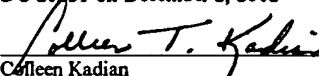
Applicants: Adrianus Josephus van den Nieuwelaar et al.
Serial No.: 09/904,154 Art Unit: 3644
Filed: July 12, 2001 Examiner: Judith A. Nelson
For: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR PROCESSING A SLAUGHTER ANIMAL

Attorney Docket No. V0028/260265

Commissioner for Patents
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Colleen Kadian

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
AND PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Sir:

This paper responds to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2002 in the above-identified patent application.

Amendments in the Claims

Please cancel claims 5 and 7 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 4, 6, and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for mechanically opening at least one blood vessel in the neck of a slaughter animal, in particular a fowl, comprising:

positioning the neck of the slaughter animal, wherein the neck comprises a longitudinal axis; and